

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 65

By Coleman

### A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and its Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly honor those sterling organizations that endeavor to educate and inform the minds of Tennessee's educators and students on subjects of great historical significance; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program is one such worthy organization that strives to enhance the knowledge of Tennessee's educators on the Holocaust through an intensive ten-month program; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program was created to train a pilot group of secondary school teachers--selected in a competitive process from districts across the state--who were already teaching about the Holocaust and other genocides in their classrooms and who demonstrated a high degree of competence in their knowledge about the topic; and

WHEREAS, the twelve teachers selected for this pioneer program are: Monnie DeBerry, Hardin County Middle School; Duane Eliff, Hardin County Middle School; Henry Camp, Sequatchie County High School; Athena Davis, Cleveland High School; Noelle Smith, South Greene High School; Christiane Schmidt, Morristown-Hamblen High School East; Julie Mitchell, Lake Forest Middle School; Jill Coble, Smyrna Middle School; Samantha Davenport, Mt. Juliet High School; Kathy Rieder, Tullahoma High School; Nancy Schwartz, Martin Luther King Magnet School; and Lyn Newman, Smyrna Middle School; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's goal is to offer this group of twelve teachers the opportunity to enrich their understanding of the issues that surround this watershed event in human history and enhance the teachers' pedagogical skills through an in-depth training

program at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, in Washington, DC, and in group session in preparation for that training in Nashville. Presenters were chosen who represent cutting-edge scholarship at a national level to guide the Tennessee practitioners in a carefully designed course of advanced study; and

WHEREAS, once this pilot group of teachers has completed the ten-month program, the teachers will develop outreach projects that have impact in their schools or school systems, counties, or communities. The teachers will further be expected to mentor other teachers less knowledgeable in the creation of Holocaust units for their students and to work together as a resource network for other teachers across the state; and

WHEREAS, in June of 2007, the twelve teachers of the Tennessee Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program will meet again to present and critique the projects they have developed and to discuss their plans for implementation. They will be guided in the development of their projects in the intervening months by Julie Doochin, the Education Director of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission, and by two special consultants, Paul Fleming and Griff Watson, who have been trained by the United States Holocaust Museum for this very purpose; and

WHEREAS, at the end of its inaugural year, if the Fellows Program proves successful, the Tennessee Holocaust Commission hopes to compound its success by adding one class a year, thereby increasing the number of Tennessee teachers well schooled in Holocaust studies; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we honor the Tennessee Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program as a model of academic excellence and applaud its laudable intentions in educating the teachers of Tennessee, who will, in turn, educate the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the Tennessee Holocaust Commission on its creation of the Tennessee Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program, commend those twelve upstanding educators chosen for this notable program, and extend our best wishes to the Tennessee Holocaust Commission for a successful inaugural year of the Tennessee Holocaust Teacher Fellows Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.